

SELECTING A WATER EFFICIENT TOILET

There is a lot to think about when choosing a water efficient toilet. Consumers tend to make their toilet purchasing decisions based on a variety of factors such as style, color, name brand recognition, and price. Often toilet flushing performance is not given thorough consideration.

One of the best ways to insure satisfactory flushing performance is to ask the advice of plumbers or plumbing suppliers for suggestions on models that have high customer satisfaction. Another popular decision tool is to select toilet models that friends and neighbors have installed and that they recommend. A number of popular consumer publications have ranked various toilet models as “best” based on a many factors, including price and performance. Unfortunately, these consumer publications sometimes don't list toilet affordable locally-available models.

Most of the popular toilet models for sale in the greater Seattle area were tested for flushing performance by the National Association of Home Builders Research Center (NAHB) during the summer of 2002. For the full report including detailed results see www.savingwater.org

Many customers ask if they must spend a lot of money to get a toilet that performs well. The following table includes toilet models tested by NAHB, showing performance results in the top half of all toilets tested, available in the Saving Water Partnership service area, and generally available for under \$100.

<i>Manufacturer</i>	<i>Model Name</i>	<i>Model number or Tank/Bowl Numbers</i>
American Standard	Compact	4010.012.020/3027.012.020
American Standard	Plebe	4392.312.020/3344.312.020
Briggs (Proflo 3212T/2200B)	Abington III	4229 = 4440T/4857B
Briggs (Proflo Altima)	Altima III	4232 = 4430T/4320B
Corona	Orchid	
Crane/Universal Rundle	Atlas	4471/4290
Kohler	Wellworth	4620-0/4277-0
Lamosa (Sanitarios Azteca)	Sahara	411
Mansfield	Alto	130/160
Niagara	Flapperless	N2216
Niagara	Turbo	N2220
Toto		CST703
Western Pottery	Aris	822

- many toilets selling for more than \$100 also performed well in the NAHB testing. Visit savingwater.org for the full report and rankings of all toilets tested
- ** it is best to ask for the specific model number of the toilet you are looking for. Some manufacturers use the same name for more than one model number.